

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 247747  
ORIGIN DHA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 NSC-05 H-01 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 /046 R

DRAFTED BY D/HA:M.SCHNEIDER:DIW  
APPROVED BY D/HA:M.SCHNEIDER  
S/P:R.FEINBERG  
ARA:J.KEANE

-----048922 152148Z /70

R 152028Z OCT 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 247747

EMBASSY PASS TO R. HARRIS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: ARREST OF EPIFANO MENDEZ FLEITAS AND SON

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE ARREST IN BUENOS AIRES ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 7 OF THE PARAGUAYAN EXILE LEADER EPIFANIO MENDEZ FLEITAS, 60, AND HIS SON, EPIFANIO MENDEZ, 23. THE DAUGHTER OF MENDEZ, TERESA MENDEZ FAITH, TEACHES AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN CALIFORNIA AND IS MARRIED TO AN AMERICAN. SHE REPORTS THAT HER FATHER IS BEING HELD IN THE SECCIONAL SEGUNDARIA IN BUENOS AIRES, AND THAT A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS HAS BEEN FILED BUT THAT THE RESPONSE WAS THAT MENDEZ WAS CONNECTED WITH THE ERP, A CHARGE SHE DENIES. DAUGHTER STATES THAT THERE IS GRAVE DANGER THAT HE WILL BECOME ONE OF THE "DISAPPEARED".

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2. MENDEZ HAS BEEN LIVING IN BUENOS AIRES FOR MANY YEARS. A FORMER HIGH OFFICIAL IN THE PARAGUAYAN CENTRAL BANK, AND AN EARLY ASSOCIATE OF STROESSNER'S, HE IS NOW A LEADER OF A DISSIDENT FRACTION OF THE COLORADO PARTY.

3. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE EMBASSY WOULD INQUIRE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE GOA ABOUT THE

STATUS OF MENDEZ AND HIS SON AND EXPRESS OUR CONCERN FOR  
THEIR SAFETY. CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES ALSO HAVE BEEN  
CONTACTED BY THE DAUGHTER. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 247747  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 /028 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: ARA/ECA:DVANTREECK:RC

APPROVED BY: ARA/ECA:FERONDON

-----103020 281808Z /56

R 280400Z OCT 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 247747 SENT ACTION BUENOS AIRES OCT 15.  
QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 247747

EMBASSY PASS TO R. HARRIS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SHUM

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** M.SCHNEIDER:DIW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Film Number:** D770379-1120  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARREST OF EPIFANO MENDEZ FLEITAS AND SON  
**TAGS:** SHUM, AR, PA, US, (MENDEZ FLEITAS, EPIFANO)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009